

**REMARKS**

In accordance with the foregoing preliminary amendment, the specification and claims 6, 7 and 17 are amended. No new matter is presented in this Amendment.

**Election of species**

At page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner required the following election of species:

I. In the second polymer layer, an election of

A) a silicon-included compound (Please note that the specification and claims are amended herein to change the phrase "silicon-included compound" to "silicon-containing compound.");

B) a polyalkylene oxide,

C) a polyolefin,

D) a polydiene, or

E) a polyfluorocarbon, and

II. In the metal layer, an election of

A) a metal cited in claims 15 (Ni, Ti, Cu, Ag, Au, Pt, Fe, Co, Cr, W, and Mo),

B) a metal cited in claim 17 (Al, Mg, K, Na, Ca, Sr, Ba, Si, Ge, Sb, Pb, In, and Zn)  
(Please note that claim 17 is amended herein to depend from claim 16.), or

C) a metal cited in claim 16 (a metal being capable of forming an alloy with lithium).

In response to the requirement of an election of species, Applicants elect the following with traverse:

**Species I.A, a silicon-containing compound** for the second polymer layer and

**Species II.A, a metal cited in claim 15 (Ni, Ti, Cu, Ag, Au, Pt, Fe, Co, Cr, W, and Mo)**  
for the metal layer.

Claims 1 – 15 and 18 – 22 read on the elected species.

The requirement of election of species is traversed on the grounds that there would not be a serious burden on the Examiner to search and examine all of the species of the application,

particularly in comparison with the additional expense and delay the Applicants would have to incur if it becomes necessary to file divisional applications to protect the full range of the Applicants' subject matter. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the requirement for election of species are therefore respectfully requested.

**Conclusion**

In view of the foregoing amendments, arguments and remarks, all claims are deemed to be allowable and this application is believed to be in condition for allowance.

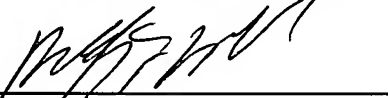
If any further fees are required in connection with the filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our deposit account number 503333.

Should any questions remain unresolved, the Examiner is requested to telephone Applicants' attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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